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SONIC™ SUPER SPECIAL

SONIC BOOM™

GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON:
THE GAMES!
THE TV SERIES!
THE COMIC!
AND MORE!

PLUS

UNLEASH THE BEAST!
SONIC UNDERGOES A MAJOR TRANSFORMATION IN
SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

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GET AN INKLING ON MR. BRYANT'S BOOMING BRUSHWORK!

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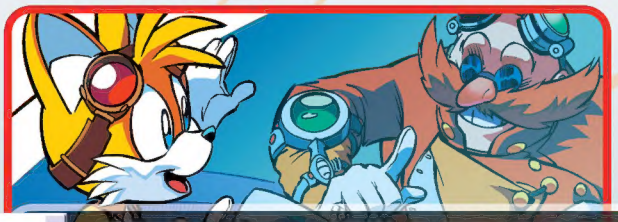
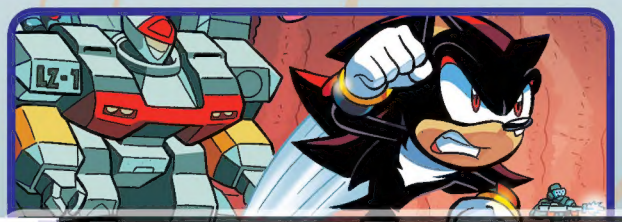


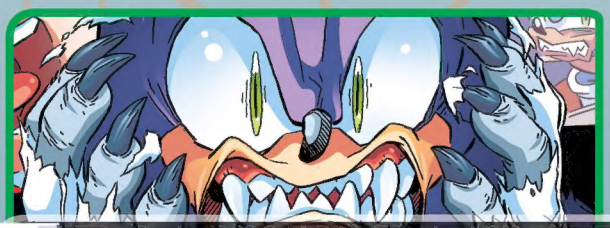
8 GETTING A LITTLE BOULDER

The Big Boom begins here! Join Sonic and his crew as they battle the zany creations of the evil Dr. Eggman, including... a cyborg-possessed house?



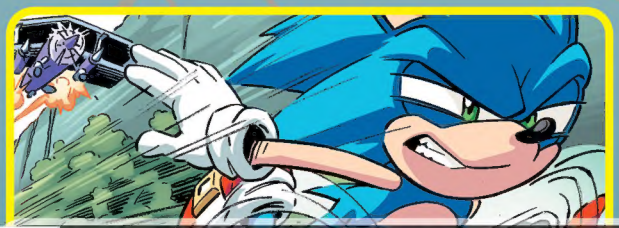
32 INTO THE UNKNOWN

Shadow the Hedgehog thought he had already defeated the evil alien race known as the Black Arms, but now they're back! How can this be?!



56 BREAKING POINT

Something is up with Sonic! The mission to gather the Chaos Emeralds goes awary when a new foe pushes Sonic over the edge of control!



100 THE CHASE: PART ONE

LOOK OUT FOR THE TRAIN! Sonic and the Freedom Fighters have to stop a speeding locomotive before the power to rule the world falls into the hands of Dr. Eggman!

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL™

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SONIC GRAMS PRESENTS

HEY KIDS!

WRITE TO US @: SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY MAIL c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC. P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419 YOU CAN ALSO WRITE IN VIA E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

LETTERS

Hey, everybody! This issue of the Super Special Magazine is literally BOOMING with goodness! We've got the breakdown for ya on all aspects of the new branch of the Sonic the Hedgehog franchise, Sonic Boom™, including the very first issue of the comic series! But that's not all! We've also got an overiew of the panel at NYCC '14 and plenty of other goodies coming your way! Phew! Now that I got all that out of my system, I say it's high time we dive into the ocean of fan mail!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
Hey ya'll!

Hello!

Just wanted to express to you how much I love Jon Gray's interview in Sonic Super Special #12! He writes comics for the same reason I play and write music. Love that guy! Let him know, please?

Your pal,
Zoe K. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the kind words, Zoe! We'll pass 'em along to Mr. Gray!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
My name is Tyler J. and I am writing and to tell you how much I love your Sonic comics and I always know that you guys will make great comic books for 1000 more years!

Hiya, Tyler! That's a long time, but we'll get there I'm sure!

I also really like the fact that you guys are going to have another art contest soon. Hope you guys will read this during the Super Special delivery segment in the Sonic Super Special comics.

Surprise!

I also want to shout out to all of you who make the Sonic comics! I'm talking about Patrick, Evan and yourself and all of the other folks on the creative team. I hope all of you guys keep making great comics and keep making all of us laugh so that when I'm feeling down I'll just pick up one of my favourite issues and have a great day from then on.

SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY

That's so nice of you to say! Thank you so much! We wanna keep bringing happiness to everyone all over the world! Or at the very least, chili dogs!

I also have a question: where has Silver been since the crossover, I haven't seen him at all?

Sincerely Tyler sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thank you for writing to us, Tyler! That's a really good question and I really want to give you the details, but the best I can do for now is to look forward to the future. Silver could be anywhere in the Universe!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I just read your book, Sonic Archives vol. 0. It was impressive to be in my school!

That's great to hear that your school has our book! I hope there are lots more for you and the other kids in your class to read!

My favorite part was in the story, "Something Fishy." It had the level from the original Sonic the Hedgehog called *Labyrinth Zone*. It was one of the best references from Sonic the Hedgehog ever!

Good catch! That level is a real challenge! Dangerous spikes and water floods, you're lucky to get out of there with all your rings! Now that I think of it, Labyrinth Zone is also referenced in our Sonic Genesis graphic novel! Be sure to check it out! Plugplugplugplugplugplug!

If I could only ask one question, it would be this:

You will have a bite-sized portion of the usual!

Can you make an HD version of the classic comics with modern characters mixed with classic levels please?

Sincerely,
Zavier D. from Vermont

Thanks for the letter, Zavier! We've actually sort of been doing that recently in both Sonic the Hedgehog and Sonic Universe comic book series! The modern characters have been traversing zones from all eras of Sonic! Check 'em out by either going to your local comic shop, (which you can find by going to comicshoplocator.com) or subscribe via the nifty order form in this very magazine! Shameless plugs FTW!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
Hey it's me again! I just have so many questions for you guys that I had to write again! Here's the usual:

Someone's on top of things!

If all the other Freedom Fighters still exist, do Lupe and Rosie still exist too? Same goes for other Sonic TV characters like Scratch, Grounder and Coconuts.

Rosie has actually already appeared in the Sonic Comic Origins stories we've been running in both this magazine and the Sonic Super Digest. As for the others I say keep a keen eye out. Particularly in upcoming issues of Sonic the Hedgehog!

Will we see characters from some of the other Sonic TV shows?

We actually just launched an entirely new series based on the all-new Sonic Boom™ TV series and games! For the full scoop, just turn the page! How convenient!

Will we see any new members of the new Freedom Fighters and is Moss a member of the CHAOTIX?

Thanks for being awesome!
signed, Payne
from Canada

Thanks, Payne! Perhaps! I cannot say for now! Moss is not currently a member of the Chaotix, but he'd make a great teammate for sure!

Thank you everyone for your Super Special letters! We'll see all you Sonic Super Special fans next time! Until then, keep reading the comics and write to us at "Super Special Delivery," "Sonic Grams" and "My Sonic Universe" to get your letter in print!

SUPER SHOUT-OUTS

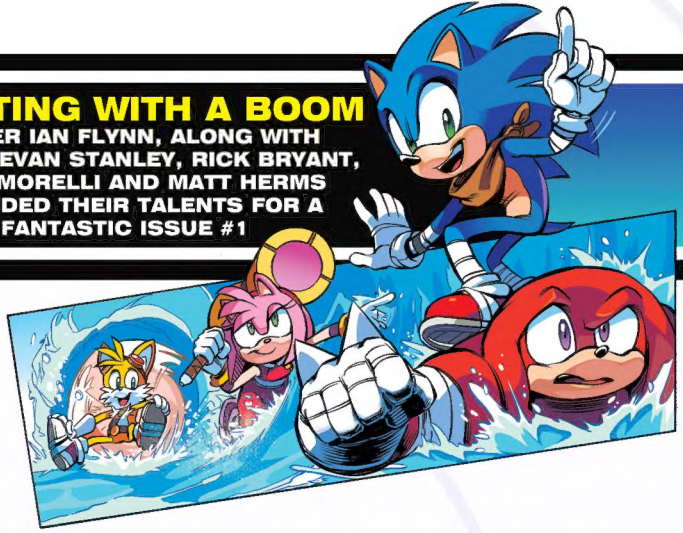
"Hi awesome Sonic comic team!"
~Austin J.
from Australia

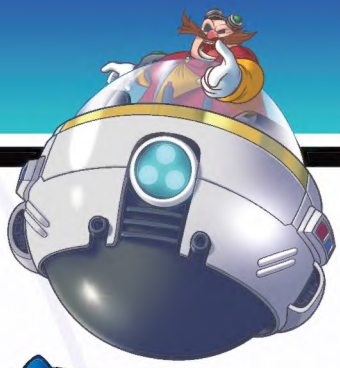
"Eclipse and Shadow are my two favorite characters. I cant wait to see what happens to them next!!!!!! See-ya!"
~ Gloria B.
sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

"I'm glad Thunderbolt is a chinchilla! I would like to see her again!"
~ Kate.
sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

"I'd like to say this: these comics are amazing. They are some of the most detailed and action-packed stories you can fit on paper."
~Parker F.
sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

STARTING WITH A BOOM
WRITER IAN FLYNN, ALONG WITH ARTISTS EVAN STANLEY, RICK BRYANT, JACK MORELLI AND MATT HERMS PROVIDED THEIR TALENTS FOR A FANTASTIC ISSUE #1



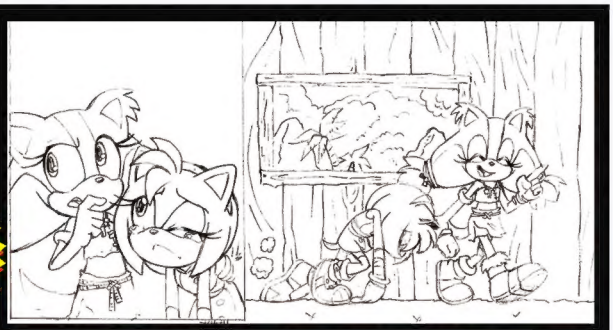


THE COMIC BOOK

In addition to video games, the TV series, toys and more -- Sonic Boom™ is also the all-new monthly comic book from Archie Action Comics!

Archie Sonic comic writer Ian Flynn is at the helm of the series, dreaming up big stories and even bigger fun for the Sonic Boom comic book. Whereas the Sonic the Hedgehog and Sonic Universe comic book series' lean more towards the action-drama genre, Sonic Boom leans more heavily toward comedy and adventure.

As with the television show, anything goes in this comic book, so look out for unlikely team-ups, sentient screwdrivers, wacky races and Sticks! LOTS AND LOTS OF STICKS! ■



BOOMING THE BOOKS
AN ALL-STAR CAST OF SONIC COMIC ARTISTS ARE SET TO WORK ON SONIC BOOM! HERE'S A SNEAK PREVIEW FROM FROM ISSUE 3 BY PENCILLERS RYAN JAMPOLE & JENNIFER HERNANDEZ!

Archie ACTION! @ NEW YORK COMIC CON 2014™

PANEL-PALOOZA!

The Archie Action panel started with a real bang as we proudly announced that the Blue Blur and Blue Bomber will be meeting once again in WORLDS UNITE!

The sequel to the wildly epic Sonic and Mega Man™ Worlds Collide crossover will begin in 2015! Although concrete details on the crossover are a closely-guarded secret for now, we can confirm that this crossover will be bigger and better than the first AND will be in-continuity.

Springing right off of the big news, we discussed the all-new Sonic Boom comic book series and we were pleasantly surprised to see the glowing reaction to the series and artwork we revealed. Fans were also pleased to get a glimpse of some special production artwork from the future Sonic the Hedgehog storyline: "Champions," which is based in part on the arcade game *Sonic the Fighters*! Appropriately, Honey the Cat will make her debut in the new storyline with a new design to boot! Requests for Honey to appear in the comic have been aplenty, so we delivered!

ARCHIE ACTION CREW
(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) JAMAL PEPPERS, RYAN JAMPOLE, PAUL KAMINSKI, JONATHAN H. GRAY, VINCENT LOVALLO & BEN HUNZEKER

The fans were there to support us in full-force. We were so happy to see everyone and even talk to a handful of you at the Archie booth! We look forward to seeing everyone again next time, and at more conventions next year! ■

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

THE BIG BOOM!

OH, HELLO THERE!

Welcome to **Sonic's** tropical island home! The sun is always shining, the air is always clean, and the neighbors will gladly spot you for a chili dog! (You'd better pay them back by Tuesday, though. That's just common courtesy.)

The island is protected by **Sonic the Hedgehog** and his team of friends including me, **Sticks the Badger** (please hold your applause). Usually the island is peaceful, but there's always the threat of an attack from **Dr. Eggman** (which, in this economy, is what we call "job security").

So sit back, relax, tense up, stand down, sit up, relax (did I say that?) and journey with me to the latest adventure in the land of the **BIG BOOM...**

DID YOU KNOW...

Sonic Boom™ is a separate branch of the Sonic the Hedgehog franchise featuring video games, a TV series and toys! The characters have been redesigned to better pair them to their personalities and traits. This is the second time Sonic and his friends have received redesigns. The last time was for the 1999 video game *Sonic Adventure*!

SONIC BOOM™
1ST ISSUE
SPAZ
SPECIAL PRESENTATION!

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

SHADOW FALL

PREVIOUSLY

THE **BLACK ARMS** WERE A RACE OF ALIEN MARAUDERS THAT HAD ATTACKED SONIC'S WORLD LONG AGO. **SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG** DEFEATED THEIR LEADER AND CENTRAL HIVE-MIND, **BLACK DOOM**, AND BLEW UP THEIR TRAVELING HOMEWORLD, THE BLACK COMET.

A **NEW BLACK COMET** HAS ARRIVED, BEARING MORE BLACK ARMS. WHERE DID THEY COME FROM? HOW DID THEY SURVIVE BLACK DOOM'S DEFEAT? NOBODY KNOWS, AND SHADOW ISN'T STOPPING TO ASK. HE LEADS **TEAM DARK** AND **G.U.N.'S SPIDER TROUPE** ON A MISSION TO BLOW UP THE NEW BLACK COMET AND STOP THE **MYSTERIOUS ALIENS.**

DID YOU KNOW...

Shadow the Hedgehog is one of the few characters to receive his own video game title in the Sonic franchise! Other characters who've received their own solo games include Miles "Tails" Prower, who had multiple titles for the Sega Game Gear and Knuckles the Echidna, who had his own title for the 32X!

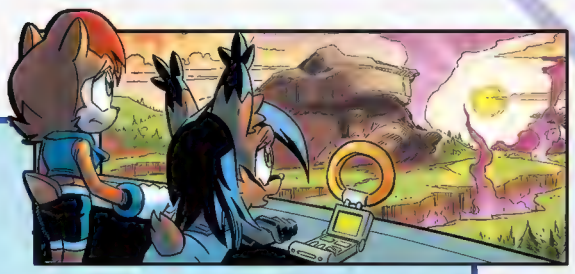
Tracy Yardley!
+Steve

SONIC
SUPER SPECIAL
BONUS PIN-UP!

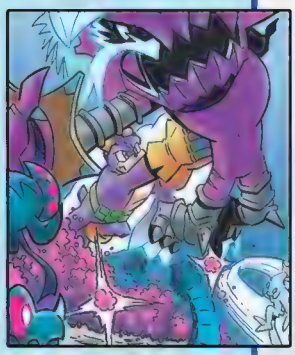
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

CONTROL

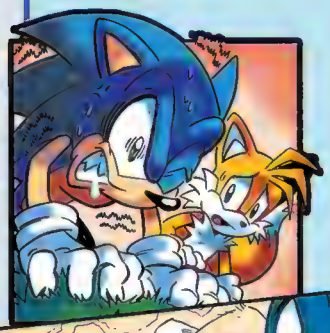
PREVIOUSLY



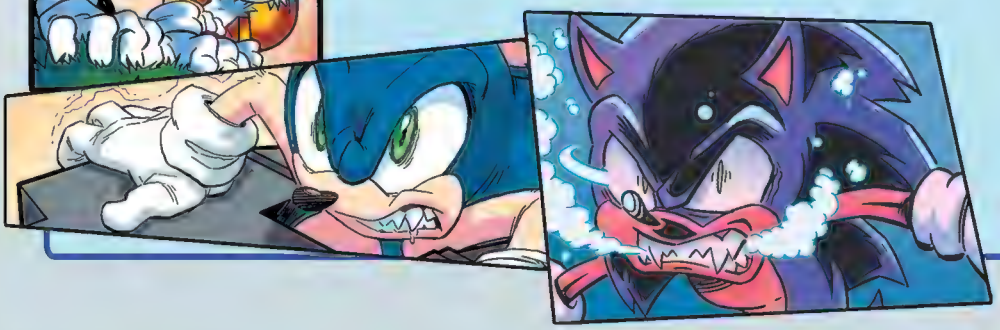
THE WORLD'S CRUST HAS **BROKEN APART!** SONIC AND **THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS** ARE IN SEARCH OF THE SEVEN **CHAOS EMERALDS** AND **GAIA TEMPLES.** WITH THEIR POWER, OUR HEROES HOPE TO RETURN THE WORLD TO **NORMAL**!



THE ESSENCE OF DARK GAIA IS SEEPING THROUGH THE CRACKS IN THE EARTH. THIS CORRUPTING MUCK CREATES **TERRIFYING MONSTERS** EVERY NIGHT AND DARKENS THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THOSE EXPOSED TO IT.



SONIC RECEIVED A FACE-FULL OF CONCENTRATED DARK GAIA ENERGY DAYS AGO. HE SWEARS HE'S FINE, BUT **SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT...**



DID YOU KNOW...

The events surrounding the shattered world crisis are based on the 2008 video game *Sonic Unleashed!* The difference was night and day, where Sonic would be his speedy-self in the daytime and transform into a vicious beast known as the "Werehog" at night!

SPAZ

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

LOCKDOWN

PREVIOUSLY

EVERYBODY KNOWS **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** – THE COOL, BLUE HERO OF HIS WORLD! BUT ON A **DARK MIRROR WORLD**, THE MEAN, GREEN **SCOURGE** MENACES EVERYONE! OR HE DID UNTIL HE WAS FINALLY BROUGHT TO **JUSTICE**, THAT IS.

NOW OL' SCOURGEY IS SERVING HIS TIME **BEHIND BARS**, THE BUTT OF EVERY JOKE ON THE PRISON YARD AND UNDER THE FIERCE SCRUTINY OF **WARDEN ZOBOTNIK**. BUT WITH THAT MANY **VILLAINS** UNDER ONE ROOF, AND MORE ARRIVING EACH DAY, IT MAY ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE **"LOCKDOWN"** TURNS INTO **"BREAK OUT"...**

DID YOU KNOW...

A mysterious creature named Meighlin from the 2006 video game *Sonic the Hedgehog* makes a cameo appearance in *Scourge: Lockdown!* Can you find him?

Tracy
Vadlen
Hunzeker

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE:

THE CHASE

PREVIOUSLY

SONIC'S WORLD IS TORN APART WITH THE BROKEN PIECES FLOATING AROUND THE CORE OF SONIC'S WORLD. **DR. EGGMAN** RESEARCHED THE STRANGE PHENOMENA, WHICH LEAD HIM TO **PROF. PICKLE**, THE MAN WHO MAY HOLD THE KEY TO THE PLANET'S SURVIVAL.

WANTING TO GAIN THE UPPER HAND IN HIS WORLD CONQUEST, DR. EGGMAN **KIDNAPPED** PROF. PICKLE AND ANYONE INVOLVED WITH HIS RESEARCH, INCLUDING THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ALLY: **CHUCK**! IT'S UP TO SONIC AND FRIENDS TO FREE THE PROFESSORS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

THE CHASE IS ON...

DID YOU KNOW...

The train which the Freedom Fighters pursue in this story is actually based on the trains seen in the 2004 video game *Sonic Heroes!* Look out for them in the levels Rail Canyon and Bullet Station!

INTERVIEW WITH - RICK BRYANT - INKER -

SSSM: Rick, you've been involved with quite a few Archie projects leading up to the Sonic Boom series! How did you get started at Archie?

RICK BRYANT
SONIC BOOM INKER EXTRAORDINAIRE

RB: I received a phone call from the past. Paul Kaminski had remembered me from many years ago at a Convention. He wanted to know if I was available to do any inking as he liked my illustrative approach to that. (As seen in my Fantasy portfolios). I was and started with the second issue of the new *Mega Man*. Unfortunately, I was offered the chance to ink an outside project and really wanted to do it. Paul was very understanding. After that stint he gave me all kinds of work doing covers, single page fill-ins on the *Mega Man* and *Sonic* titles. I was happy when he approached me with this *Sonic Boom* project and here I am!

SSSM: In addition to previous Archie Sonic projects, you're also a team player on the all-new monthly comic series, *Sonic Boom* – what can you tell us about inking that first issue? Any notable moments?

RB: Right off the top… inking the four variant covers that make up the first issue of *Sonic Boom*. Evan Stanley just did a wonderful job with the pencils and for some reason I changed up my inking style and went a bit more illustrative and textured with the brush… and I really was hoping it would be at least OK. I loved it! Happily all was good with Archie!

READY, STEADY, GO!
THE INK PROCESS IS A JOB OF PATIENCE AND EXACTNESS. RICK SHOWS US HIS WORK-IN-PROGRESS OF THE 4 CONNECTING VARIANTS FOR SONIC BOOM #1

SSSM: What is it about inking comic books that made you want to go professional?

RB: Hard to put into words… but I can say it was a place I thought I could attain some of my goals in life. It helped that I discovered how to get in touch with the top illustrators of the day… so a fast move to New York City from Santa Cruz, California got my foot in the door. I did what I could to learn and practice. It paid off. And it was time to stop doing background inking for others…

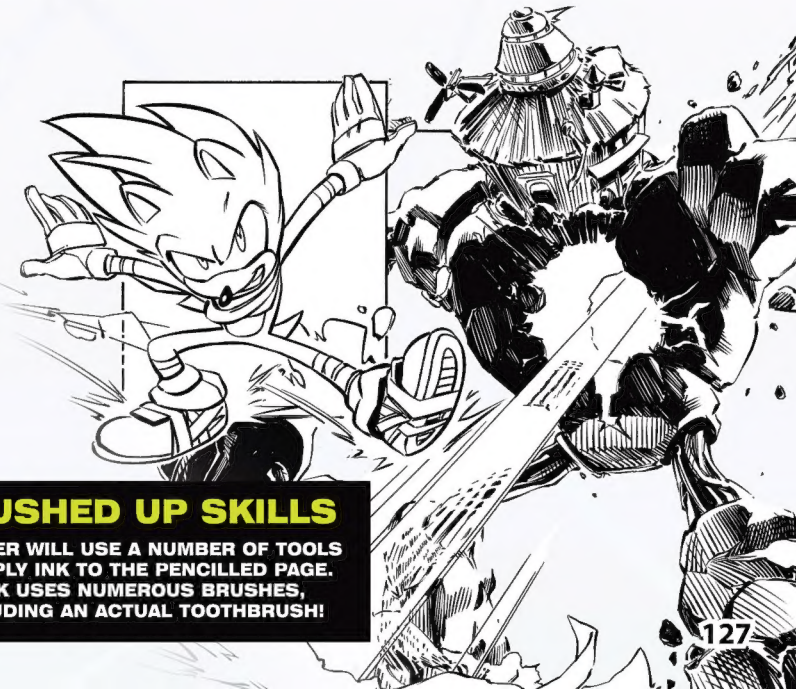
STICKING TO IT

RICK NOT ONLY INKS THE INTERIOR PAGES BUT WILL ALSO LEND HIS SKILL FOR SOME OF THE COVERS! HERE ARE THE INKS FOR THE VARIANT FOR SONIC BOOM ISSUE 4

SSSM: Do you have any favorite/notable moments from any of your past Archie Sonic projects? What advice do you have for any aspiring inkers out there?

RB: The first time inking a new penciller is always fun. It is new territory.

Look for art. Not just comic book art. Look to master illustrators of the past for inspiration and instruction. Life drawing and anatomy. Photo reference as needed. But none of that matters if you do not study and practice… A LOT! If you can work at an agency or comic art studio or apprentice with a working professional… that can help. And take advice and critique from others. It may well sting but you can ignore what you want and learn from what you think is valid. That alone can advance your learning curve. ■



BRUSHED UP SKILLS

AN INKER WILL USE A NUMBER OF TOOLS TO APPLY INK TO THE PENCILLED PAGE. RICK USES NUMEROUS BRUSHES, INCLUDING AN ACTUAL TOOTHBRUSH!